



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

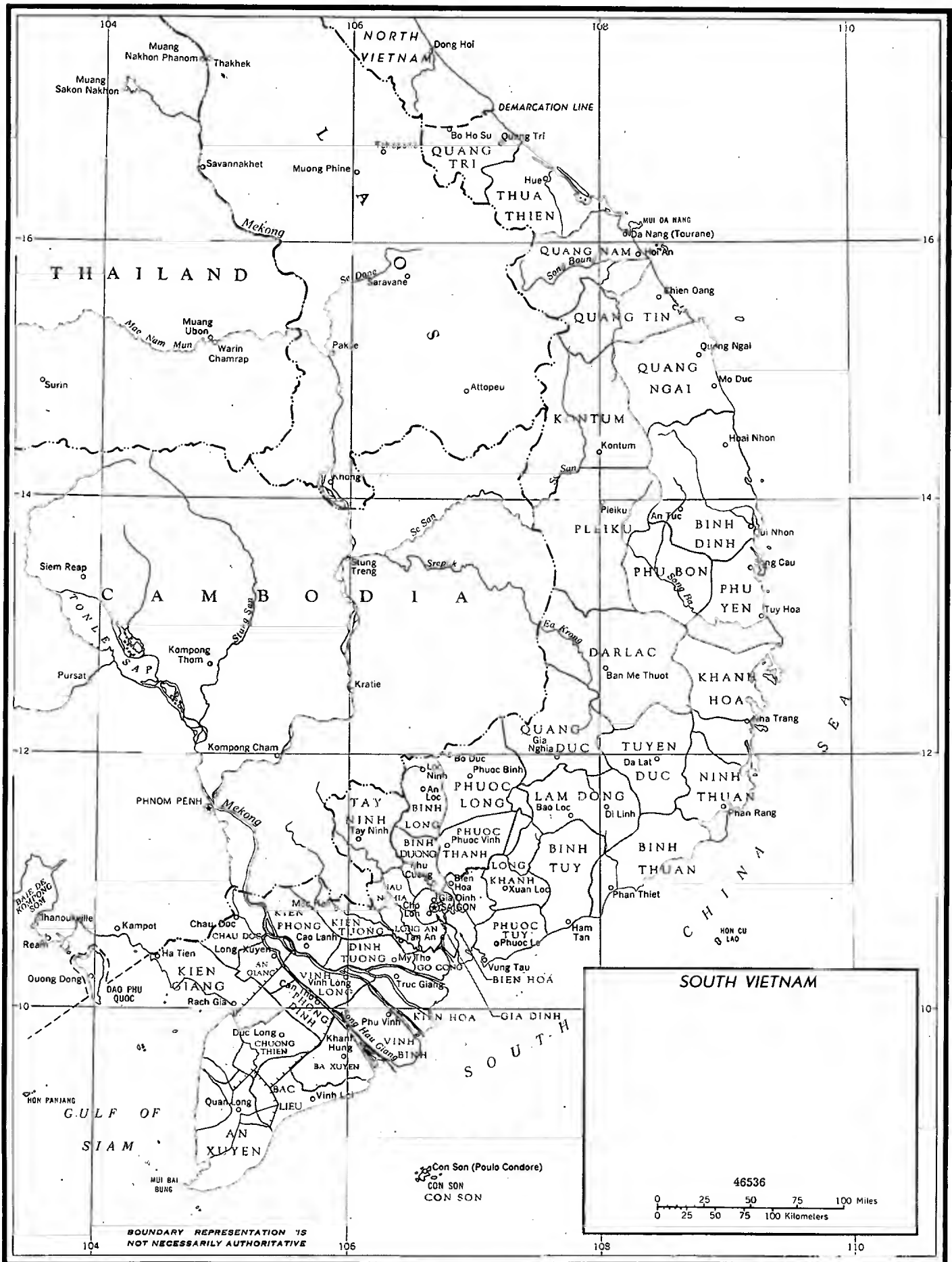


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14 APRIL 1965

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1. South Vietnam

The Viet Cong are becoming more active in the northern provinces. In addition to yesterday's coordinated mortar attacks in Quang Tri Province, they are now reported to have attacked a government armored column near the Quang Tri - Thua Thien border. (See map.) Estimates on the size of the attacking force range from one company to three battalions. Only fragmentary reports have been received on the engagement, which is still going on.

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2. North Vietnam

[redacted] member of the ICC has put forth two interesting although highly speculative reasons for Hanoi's unyielding attitude toward negotiations. [redacted] one possibility is Hanoi's fear that badly needed Soviet military aid would be stopped at the first sign of compromise. He also speculates that, before entering into discussions, Hanoi may feel the need to strengthen the Viet Cong. He reports rumors that Hanoi is preparing to send more cadres to the south.

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3. South Korea

Student demonstrations against the agreement with Japan are expected to continue. Opposition politicians have also scheduled a mass rally for this Saturday. The government is determined to keep things from getting out of control, however, and is ready to declare martial law if necessary.

4. Indonesia

Beginning about 27 April, the Communists plan to press demands for the confiscation of US property in Indonesia. By these and other anti-American actions they hope to hasten a break in US-Indonesian relations.

The success of the campaign will depend, as usual, on how far Sukarno is willing to let the Communists go. He has just announced the purge of one of Indonesia's strongest anti-Communist pressure groups.

5. Mexico

Last Monday the government arrested several leaders of the Mexican Communist party in connection with student demonstrations protesting US policy on Vietnam. The government does not consider the party a serious threat and will probably release the leaders shortly, but the action serves as a warning that Diaz Ordaz will not tolerate threats to public order.

6. Bulgaria

[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] an unsuccessful coup against the Zhivkov regime was staged some time between 6 and 12 April. According to the Rumanian military attaché in Sofia, the commandant of the Sofia garrison is missing, and a high-level party official has committed suicide. 50X1

The Bulgarian party is faction-ridden, and there is strong opposition to Zhivkov's slavishly pro-Moscow policies, but there is no solid evidence to support these rather tenuous reports of an attempted coup.

7. France

It begins to look as if De Gaulle may soon come up with concrete proposals on reorganizing NATO and on the nuclear forces problem. Couve de Murville has said that he would recommend to De Gaulle that France make specific proposals for NATO reform in 1966 because "it would be unwise" to wait until 1969 to do so.

The hint of French action at this time may be designed to delay discussions on US and UK nuclear force proposals until France's ideas are presented to the North Atlantic Council. De Gaulle may also feel some pressure to come out with definite ideas on European defense, since the French have insisted that any talks on European political union must include defense problems.

8. Kenya

Kenyatta is moving against pro-Communist Vice President Oginga Odinga. Oginga is reported under arrest for treason, and various government officials are making speeches warning against subversion and Communist infiltration. Kenyatta's own recent speech on the subject is being broadcast twice daily, and the local press is making much of the unhappy experiences of Kenyan students in the USSR.

9. North Korea

Twice last night North Korean jet fighters were sent some 50 miles out over the Sea of Japan to check on US reconnaissance flights--farther out than they have ever been noted before. The North Koreans have long kept a close watch on US aircraft activity

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